Coordination of national names boards
the model of StAGN

Training Course on Toponymy
27 March 2006, Wien, Austria

Dr. Jörn Sievers
Chairman
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
(Permanent committee on geographical names)
Resolution I/4
of the First United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names, Genève, 1967

National standardization

Recommendation A: National Names Authorities

Recommendation B: Collection of Geographical Names

Recommendation C: Principles of Office Treatment of Geographical Names

Recommendation D: Multilingual Areas

Recommendation E: National Gazetteers

StAGN
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
What StAGN is

- StAGN is an organization dealing with the standardization of geographical names in the German-speaking area.

- StAGN is the national names authority of Germany.

- StAGN is an independent scientific advisory board without sovereign functions.

- StAGN is composed of experts representing Austria, Germany, Switzerland, the German-speaking community in Belgium and other German-speaking regions.
StAGN’s Terms of Reference:

- Standardization of geographical names in the German-speaking area
- Developing toponymic policies and guidelines for naming
- Publication of gazetteers
- Publication of a synoptical list of country names
- Publication of a list of exonyms
- Expert opinions for public authorities
- Collaboration in the UNGEGN
- Disseminating UNCSGN resolutions in the home countries
- Representing StAGN recomm. in UNGEGN and UNCSGN
Standardization and Harmonization

Not harmonized and very different!

Nearly harmonized, but keeping national peculiarities!

(Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen)

(after A. Illert)
Composition of StAGN

- 15 Permanent members
- Non-permanent members
- Corresponding members

They represent the specialist fields of topography, cartography, geography and linguistics (German, Arabic, Romance and Slavonic languages) of the scientific and public administration sectors.

Shortage:

Commercial sector (Telecom, Postal Service, Railway, Atlas publishers) is not adequately represented
StAGN Executive Board

Jörn Sievers,
Chairman, DE

Isolde Hausner,
Vice-Chair, AT

Bernd E. Beinstein,
Secretary

Hermann J. Paß,
Vice-Chair, DE

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
Institutions presently represented in StAGN:

- Austrian Academy of Sciences
- Austrian and German Libraries at Frankfurt am Main, Berlin and St. Pölten
- Austrian and German Ministries of Defense / GI Office of Armed Forces
- Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies (Osi)
- Association of surveying authorities of the States of Germany (AdV),
- Association of map publishers and cartographic institutes,
- Bibliographic Institute, Dudenredaktion,
- Conference of the ministers of education and cultural affairs in Germany
- DIN Standardization Committee,
- German Federal Ministry of Transport / Federal Hydrographic Agency (BSH),
Institutions presently represented in StAGN: 2-2

- German Federal Ministry of the Interior / Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG),
- German Federal Statistical Office
- German Academy of Regional Studies
- German Geographical Society
- German Cartographic Society,
- Leibniz Institute of Regional Geography,
- Representative of the German Linguistic Community in Belgium,
- Representative of South Tyrol.
- Swiss cantonal research institute
- Swisstopo
- University of Klagenfurt
Weaknesses of a multi-national names committee like StAGN

- No decisive authorization
- Limited influence on the administration
- Programmes, projects and problems of the involved national names boards are differing
- Supra-national collaboration is more complex and
- Time-consuming
Advantages of a multi-national names committee like StAGN

- Border-crossing, supra-national collaboration
- Early deliberations, consultations, discussions and harmonization of similar national problems, programmes and projects
- Broader reservoir of toponymic expertise
- Stimulation of int'l projects (workshops, courses, ...)
- Mutual assistance and backing,
- Sharing of labour and costs,
- Politically independent discussions and decisions
But,

Acceptance of the names committee’s work by the public and the administration only through (qualified and useful) products
Dictionary of Geographical Names of Europe

1966

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
Dictionary of Geographical Names of the Baltic States and of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), 2000
Topographic Map
Geographic Regions
of Germany
at 1:1 000 000 scale
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen

StAGN
List of Country Names
8th edition,
2004

Contents
- country name, short title
- country name, long title
- ISO codes (2-, 3-letter & num)
- adjective
- designation of inhabitant
- capital, seat of government
DEUTSCHES GLOSSAR
ZUR TOPOYMISCHEN TERMINOLOGIE
Deutsches Wörterverzeichnis zur Fachsprache
der geographischen Namenkunde
2. Ausgabe

GERMAN GLOSSARY
OF TOPOYMIC TERMINOLOGY
Second Edition

Bearbeitet vom Ständigen Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN)
auf der Grundlage der vom Arbeitskreis Terminologie der
Sachverständigengruppe der Vereinten Nationen für geographische Namen (UNEGN)
zusammengestellten englischen Versionen
des Glossary of Toponymic Terminology
Prepared by the Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN)
(Permanent committee on geographical names)
according to the English versions of the
"Glossary of Toponymic Terminology"
compiled by the Working Group on Terminology of the
United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNEGN)

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN)
Frankfurt am Main 2002
List of Exonyms, 2002

Ausgewählte Exonyme der deutschen Sprache
Deutsche Namen und ihre phonetische Umschriftung
für geographische Objekte
in Ländern oder Gebieten ohne deutsche Amtssprache
2. Ausgabe

Selected German Language Exonyms
German names and their phonetic transcription
designating geographical objects
of countries or regions where German is not an official language
Second Edition

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN)
Frankfurt am Main 2002
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISO Code</th>
<th>Land/Gebiet</th>
<th>Deutsches Exonym</th>
<th>Aussprache</th>
<th>Endonym</th>
<th>Aus Deutse angepasste Endonym-Aussprache</th>
<th>Sprache</th>
<th>Objekt</th>
<th>Koordinaten Co ordinates</th>
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<td>AL</td>
<td>Albanien</td>
<td>Ochkite</td>
<td>'okrit-te:</td>
<td>Ljëria i Obrit</td>
<td>l'kjeri i obrit:</td>
<td>sq</td>
<td>See/lake</td>
<td>41°00'N, 20°40'E</td>
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<td>Shkodër</td>
<td>'skuta rize</td>
<td>Ljëria i Shkodrës</td>
<td>l'kjeri i shko drës</td>
<td>sq</td>
<td>See/lake</td>
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<td>galits'ian</td>
<td>Halychyna</td>
<td>galits'yna:</td>
<td>uk</td>
<td>Gebiet/region</td>
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<td>Kyiv</td>
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<td>uk</td>
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<td>'lmerbek</td>
<td>L'viv</td>
<td>lvif</td>
<td>uk</td>
<td>Stadt/town</td>
<td>49°50'N, 24°00'E</td>
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<td>Theiss [CH], Theiß [AT, DE]</td>
<td>tais</td>
<td>Tyisa</td>
<td>tiisa</td>
<td>uk</td>
<td>Fluss/stream</td>
<td>48°05'N, 22°52'E</td>
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</table>
Broadening the reservoir of toponymic expertise in cases of multi-national issues
APPLICATION OF THE NEW RULES OF GERMAN SPELLING TO GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

(Version 04 May 2000)

Recommended by Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN, Permanent committee on geographical names) upon unanimous resolution on the occasion of its 106th Working Session held at Wabern/Switzerland on 17 September 1999.
Recommendation of StAGN on the application of the new rules of German spelling to geographical names

StAGN recommends that institutions or individuals responsible for assigning or determining the spelling of geographical names (besides survey and cadastral authorities, particularly communal bodies, other authorities, public transport authorities, property owners, etc.) take into account all relevant sections of the new rules.
Recommendation of StAGN on the application of the new rules of German spelling to geographical names

Furthermore, it is recommended that in the states and the German-speaking areas represented within StAGN, geographical names commissions be established where not yet existent. This is to ensure proper application of the new spelling rules to geographical names. The relevant decisions concerning
Coarse regional subdivision of Europe by cultural criteria

Jordan, StAGN, 2005
Coarse regional subdivision of Europe by political criteria

Jordan, StAGN, 2005
Developing a European geographical names infrastructure and services based upon the decentralizedly kept and maintained national names databases

www.eurogeonames.com
Questionnaire replies
Stimulating and enforcing common national activities
Toponymic Guidelines
Federal Republic of Germany

Fourth Edition

Prepared in compliance with Resolution No. IV/4 of the Fourth Conference
(Geneva, 1962) and No. VI/14 of the Fifth Conference (Montreal, 1987)
of the United Nations on the Standardization of Geographical Names

Geschäftsstelle des StAGN im Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie
Frankfurt am Main 2002
Toponymic Guidelines
Austria, 2002

Revised edition
2002

Irolde Hammer
Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kartographische Ortsnamenkunde (AKO), Vienna
Contributing to the work of UNGEGN
Sachverständigengruppe der Vereinten Nationen für geographische Namen (UNEGGN)

Einheitlicher Gebrauch von Ortsnamen

Der einheitliche Gebrauch von genauen Ortsnamen ist maßgeblich für eine weltweite gute Kommunikation und leistet für die wirtschaftliche und soziale Entwicklung, den Umweltschutz und die nationale Infrastruktur wertvolle Dienste.

Aus diesem Grunde hat die Organisation der Vereinten Nationen die Sachverständigengruppe der Vereinten Nationen für geographische Namen (UNEGGN) eingerichtet.

Die Sachverständigengruppe unterstützt die Verwendung von weltweit einheitlichen und genauen Ortsnamen.
Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

BERLIN

27 August - 5 September 2002

Conference Centre, Foreign Office

Organized by the United Nations in cooperation with
- Ministry of the Interior of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG), Frankfurt am Main
- Working Committee of the State Survey Offices of the Federal Republic of Germany (Adv)
- Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names)

Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie, Richard-Strauss-Allee 11, 65299 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: +49-69-6533-317, 305 E-Mail: stagn@bkg.bund.de Internet: www.bkg.bund.de/conf-conference/012/geoenames.htm

www.stagn.de
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
8th UNCSGN Topical Exhibition

- 6 Topics
- 32 Authors, 13 countries
- 40 Posters
- 5 PC presentations
8th UNCSGN Topical Exhibition

The Team

StAGN
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen

StAGN
Report:

Training Course on Toponymy,
2003
Conclusion

- StAGN raises awareness for geographical names issues
- StAGN promotes collaboration between countries
- StAGN‘s recommendations are well-received by the public and administration as de facto standards
- StAGN‘s expert opinions are sought because of its scientific and politically independent character

StAGN
Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen
Thank you for your attention!

www.eurogeonames.com

www.stagn.de